A Committee under the Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary was set up to examine the aforesaid recommendations and this was communicated to the Ministry of Food vide letter dated 12.12.1994. The Committee submitted its Report on 18.1.1995. The Committee has made suggestions regarding the various points covered by the Gain Prakash Committee Report. The recommendations made by this Committee are being examined by the Government at present.

Proposal of sugar factories in Maharashtra

5883. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of proposals for establishment of sugar factories in Maharashtra which are pending with Government;

(b) since when these proposals are pending; and

(c) by when a final decision is likely to be taken on these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) 16 proposals for setting up of new sugar factories in the State of Maharashtra were pending consideration in the Ministry of Food, as on 31.1.95. Majority of the applications have been received during the calendar years 1993 and 1994.

The Central Government is, at present, reviewing the licensing policy for sugar industry. A decision on the pending applications for grant of letters of intent for the setting up of new sugar factories will be taken thereafter.

Abolition of the System of Bonded Labour and Child Labour

5884. SHRI NYODEK YONGGAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the system of bonded labour and child labour has been completely eliminated in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there still exists "Slavery system" in some parts of North East Region; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) Bonded Labour System stands abolished throughout the country with effect from 25.10.75 as a result of bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976. Out of 2,51,424 bonded labourers indentified and released upto 31.3.1993 since the Act came into effect only about 6000 bonded labourers are still awaiting rehabilitation. Regarding child labour, the policy of the Government is to progressively eliminate it.

(c) and (d) There are no reports of existence of bonded labour system from the North Eastern States.

Migration of rural workers from Orissa to different States

5885. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the large scale migration of rural work force from Orissa to States like Punjab, Haryana and Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the approximate number of workers of Orissa who have migrated in different States;

(d) the steps taken to prevent the migration of the workers; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.